

State Energy Program



State and Local Decision Makers Taking Action to Meet Energy Challenges

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) State Energy Program (SEP) provides grants and technical assistance to states and U.S. territories to promote energy conservation and reduce the growth of energy demand. Each state uses these funds to tailor its energy program to unique conditions while addressing national energy goals such as energy security.

Through the states, SEP funds cost-shared projects in every sector of the economy, state facilities, transportation, industry, local communities, schools, hospitals, businesses and residences. SEP is the only DOE program that supports outreach from DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for all technologies and market sectors. SEP supports a network of state energy offices that target the portfolio of energy

States are developing plans to increase the energy efficiency of their economies by 25% over 1990 levels by 2012, as required by the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

efficiency technologies and renewable energy technologies ready for market.

States develop strategic and annual energy plans, which they share with DOE. In turn, DOE provides states with technical assistance to help them carry out their energy projects.

Promoting Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

In 2002, DOE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) estimated that projects funded in part by SEP save states

\$333.6 million annually. Energy savings amount to 47.6 trillion British thermal units (Btu) per year, enough to meet the non-transportation energy needs of 289,000 homes.

DOE contributed \$46 million in federal grant funds to SEP projects out of a total expenditure from all sources of \$540.9 million. States reported energy savings of 1.03 million source Btu and cost savings on energy bills of \$7.22 for every dollar invested by SEP. ORNL found other annual outputs from these projects, where states:

- Provide \$30.4 million in loans and \$12.3 million in grants for energy projects
- Perform 15,264 energy audits covering 325 million square feet of floor space
- Retrofit 12,896 buildings for energy savings covering 153 million square feet

- Install 92,488 light-emitting diode (LED) traffic signals
- Purchase or convert 6,434 alternative fuel vehicles
- Add 205 alternative fuel refueling stations
- Install 73,180 kilowatts of generating capacity from wind and solar energy
- Train 102,067 people at workshops and training sessions
- Distribute 2.4 million printed materials
- Teach 604,050 students in energy education programs.



The U.S. Department of Energy developed many of the technologies used by these hybrid electric natural gas buses that operate on the Denver Mall.

Preparing for Energy Emergencies

One of SEP's most important requirements is that states develop and share with DOE a plan for handling energy emergencies. DOE's Office of Energy Assurance and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security also share these plans.

Program flexibility allows states to use SEP funding to help with disaster recovery and to develop energy infrastructure that resists damage from severe natural disasters. In 2005, the Florida Energy Office supported construction of a demonstration home that resists flood damage during hurricanes, generates its own electricity during power outages and is much more energy efficient than standard homes.

State energy offices, supported in part with SEP funds, form a vital infrastructure for delivering energy benefits, addressing national energy goals and coordinating energy-related emergency preparedness across the nation.



A Strong Energy Portfolio for a Strong America

Energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy will mean a stronger economy, a cleaner environment, and greater energy independence for America. Working with a wide array of state, community, industry, and university partners, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy invests in a diverse portfolio of energy technologies.



U.S. Department of Energy

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable, and affordable

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